PATENT Pocket No. 416272001500 Client Reference B99-064-1

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 25, 2002.

LILIA OLSE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Gregorio del VAL, et al.

Serial No.: 09/

09/776,454

Filing Date:

February 2, 2001

For:

METHOD FOR ASSESSING FOOD

ALLERGENICITY

Examiner: Brian A. Whiteman

Group Art Unit: 1633

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action with restriction requirement dated January 2, 2002, Paper No. 7, for which a response is due on <u>February 1, 2002</u>.

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12), with traverse.

Regarding the species election for claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, applicants elect with traverse "applying the extract to the skin of a newborn dog" for futher prosecution.

Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicants request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 416272001500. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 25, 2002

By:

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